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Voices of Diversity

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Lines Worksheet for analysis and design of this live production

1. Describe the *stasis* in the play: where, when, who, what, etc. in a paragraph.

The play is set in Grand Rapids, Michigan, a very racist town, and is directed towards the residents of that town. It is set in the present. It does not have strong individual characters, but instead has different recounts from people of the town that discusses “lines” of society.

2. What is the *intrusion*?

There is not one single clear intrusion. Each actor brought up a specific intrusion and new topic which they would then discuss.

3. What is the *unique factor*?

The unique factor is that these are real stories from real people. The play is meant to expose racism throughout the town so that the audience can take a stand against it.

4. What is the *dramatic question* that should be answered by the end of the play?

Can these “lines” be broken apart or will they continue to be ignored?

5. Identify some of the most *theatrical moments* in the play and of what importance they were to you.

They were multiple theatrical moments in the play. One being when a man was denied an apartment based on the color of his skin. Another being when they discussed the types of education for among kids of different skin tones.

6. List some of the *themes* of the play.

Racism, Discrimination, Inequality

7. Describe some possible *images* in the play and how does the *title* help us understand the play.

Throughout the play, the characters discuss the “lines” of racism they see throughout their city. Nothing is sugar coated. All of the actors are made up of a variety of different backgrounds and skin colors. They all represent different factors of diversity.

8. The production used the stage in a multitude of creative ways to places where the action took place. List some of these that particularly stood out to you.

The aspect of the boxes were very interesting to me. The actors would constantly move around the boxes to different holes on the stage. I believe they represent society and how society often places labels or boxes people in to certain stereotypes based on their gender, skin color, or sexual orientation.

9. Projections and lighting also played an important role in the performance. Discuss the use of both to achieve the intended effect.

The lighting was a very important aspect to the play. It helped to transitions in between the actors and it helped to transport the actors to another time and place in which the stories are being told.

10. Live and recorded sound played a role in this production. What were some of the memorable uses of these to support the stories that were told.

I thought the use of the drums was very interesting. Throughout some of the stories the beat of the drum would change. This created a unique feel to it.